

# WEST VIRGINIA -ELECTION CONNECTION-

*Your source for Election News from Secretary of State Natalie E. Tennant*

---

Issue 35 – June 5, 2012

In this issue ...

- General Election timeline
- Poll worker training videos
- Bills going into effect this week
- Redistricting reimbursements
- Deadline to transmit certificates of results
- How you can submit an item to the Election Connection

## **22 Weeks Until Election Day!**

On Tuesday, June 5, there will be exactly 22 weeks until the November 6 General Election!

## **Poll Worker Training Videos**

The Secretary of State's Office is currently reviewing the poll worker training videos produced in 2008 and that are still being used to train election officials.

There are four videos that focus on the different systems: Paper ballots with iVotronic, optical scan with iVotronic, iVotronic, and Automark & M100.

Once we have made edits to the scripts for the training videos, the Secretary of State's Office will be asking county clerks to also review them and make changes.

The goal is to have the videos completed by September 1 so that we can make sure each county has enough DVD's well before poll worker training begins.

We may also be able to distribute the videos more quickly via FTP server and eliminate the need to burn, package, and ship a DVD if the county clerk requests it.

## **Bills Going Into Effect This Week**

House Bill 4257, a new law that allows returning military members to register to vote up to the day before an election, goes into effect June 8. Voters who are covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) of 1986 and who are deployed in support of national security functions would be eligible for the late voter registration. Secretary Tennant said the number of voters who would be eligible for this option is small, but they represent a very important segment of our population – men and women of the armed services and their families.

**County clerks should have received an email from Secretary Tennant on Friday, asking for input in promulgating the rules for HB 4257. We know that some county clerks expressed an interest to participate. If you would like to,**

**please notify the Secretary of State's Office by Wednesday, June 6, 2012. We will then be meeting in person or by conference call. Thank you for helping out with this important legislation.**

House Bill 4238 establishes procedures for participants of the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP), which is administered by the Secretary of State's Office, to be placed on a special list of absentee voters. The ACP is designed to provide a secure mailing address for victims of domestic violence or sexual assault who wish to keep their current address private. This bill allows ACP participants to sign up to securely receive an absentee ballot without revealing their current address. This bill goes into effect on June 4.

House Bill 4403, which changes the filing deadline for certified write-in candidates, goes into effect on June 7. Senate Bill 628, which allows fund raising for state executive party headquarters, goes into effect on June 8. House Bill 4451, which ensures county executive committees have control of designating the persons who serve as ballot commissioner, goes into effect on June 8. House Bill 4279, which allows municipalities to stagger the terms of elected officers, goes into effect June 14.

### **Redistricting Reimbursements**

Redistricting reimbursement requests are due June 15. If your county is not going to be requesting reimbursement, please let us know.

If the Secretary of State's Office has not received your request by June 15, any funds for which your county would have been eligible will be returned to the funding pool for redistribution to other counties.

Questions about redistricting reimbursements can be directed to Dave Nichols.

### **Deadline to Transmit Certificates of Results**

The deadline to transmit certification of election results to the Secretary of State's Office is June 7, 2012.

From the West Virginia Election Calendar: The certification of the results of the primary election should be sent to Secretary of State as soon as possible but no later than 30 days after the primary. Board of canvassers transmits original certificates of election results for all offices to be filled by the voters of more than one county to the Secretary of State, along with copies of certificates of results for county candidates. (§ 3-5-17, 3-5-18)

### **Have an idea?**

Is there something that you want to see addressed in the Election Connection? The goal of this newsletter is to keep everyone up to date about challenges facing election officials in West Virginia and to inform everyone about best practices that are being put into place. If you have an idea for a topic, have a question, or if you think there is a subject that election officials around the state would be interested in, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary of State's Office. You can contact the Elections

Division by email at [elections@wvsos.com](mailto:elections@wvsos.com) or (304) 558-6000 or Jake Glance directly at [jglance@wvsos.com](mailto:jglance@wvsos.com). Your input is appreciated.